

My Country's Flag

Description:

Children will look at flags of different countries and re-create the flag of their own country.

Materials:

Flag activity sheet, markers, books about flags, glue, wooden dowel, small clay flowerpot

Note: A paper towel tube can be substituted for the wooden dowel and flowerpot.

Optional: old magazines

Preparation:

Make a copy of the Flag activity sheet.



Standards: 2 and 4

Concepts: Symbols and emphasis

Level: Grades 2-3

Procedure:

Look at flags from around the world and at your own flag in particular. Discuss the symbols on the flags and what they stand for. Give your child a Flag activity sheet, and have her draw your country's flag to the best of her ability. Encourage her to have fun with the image and not worry too much about details. She can use markers, crayons, pencils, paint, or even paper cutouts to decorate the flag. When the flag is finished, tape a wooden dowel (or a cardboard tube) to one side, then turn the flowerpot upside down and put the dowel through the small hole in the pot.

Artist Tie-in:

Many folk artists have used the image of the American flag in their work. And pop artist Jasper Johns has made the flag the subject of several famous paintings.

Just for Kids:

How are flags made? Who designs national flags? Where do the designers get their ideas? Why does the American flag have stars and stripes? Why does the Canadian flag have a maple leaf on it? Where could you find the answer to these questions? Take a walk around the neighborhood and look for flags. Then re-create the flag of your country using paper, markers, paints, and glue.

Resources:

Web:

Yahooligans Flags of the World: www.yahooligans.com/School_Bell/Social_Studies/Flags

Books:

Betsy Ross by Alexandra Wallner

I Know About Flags by Chris Jaeggi

Ultimate Pocket Flags of the World by Deni Brown

